Ahmedpur, Mohd. Bazar and Mayureshwar by June, 1997.

3. 120 more villages will be provided with Public Telephones by April, 1997.

Airports Running in Losses

4103. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) is it a fact that 81 Airports are running in losses due to non-availability of adequate tariff;

(b) if so, the amount of losses incurred during the last 2 years, port-wise; and

(c) the steps being proposed to ractify the situation and make these Airports profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir. The losses are mainly due to inadequate traffic revenue.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Closure of Pant Nagar Airport

4104. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHADA' : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for keeping the airports situated at Pantnagar in Kumaun Division in Uttar Pradesh closed for flights;

(b) whether efforts are on for opening this airport for domestic flights; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) Pant Nagar Airport belongs to the Airports Authority of India and has basic infrastructure for sustaining operations of Dornier type of aircraft. The airport is operational and airlines/private operators are free to operate flights to/from this airport.

[English]

Extension of Financial and Performance Guarantees

4105. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has asked two basic telecom companies holding letter of intents (LoIs) to extend their financial and performance guarantees which are likely to expire by the end of March, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(c) the response of the companies holding LoIs;

(d) the terms and conditions at the agreements by DOT and LoIs;

(e) whether the LoIs have asked the DOT that the concessions accorded to other basic Telecom Companies be made applicable to them;

(f) if so, the details in this regard and Government's response thereto; and

(g) the terms of agreements with other Telecom Companies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (g) Two out of four companies holding valid Letters of Intent (LOI) have signed the Licence and Interconnect Agreements. However, the LOI holding companies raised certain issues pertaining to Assignability of Licence, Application of Force Majeure, Arbitration procedures, Interconnection charges etc. and requested the Government to modify the Agreement documents. The Government has considered and resolved these issues suitably. The two companies which signed the Licence and Interconnect Agreements had approached the Government with a request that modifications proposed to be carried out in Licence and Interconnect Agreements should be made applicable to them also and the Government agreed to their requests.

[Translation]

Telephone Booths in Urban Areas

4106. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV :
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :
SHRI ANAND RATAN MAURYA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure for allotment of ISD/STD/PCO to unemployed and handicapped youths in the country;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal;

(c) the applications received during 1996-97 so far, state-wise; and

(d) the number of them processed so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, the existing procedure for allotment of STD/ISD/PCO is quite simple. However, the procedure for constitution of STD PCO Allotment Committees has been recently modified.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

[English]

Reservation in Trains

4107. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a great difficulty was experienced by the people during the last summer vacations in getting resrvations in the trains despite of special trains started by the Railways to clear the rush of the people from Delhi; and

(b) if so, the number of Special Trains proposed to be started from the Capital during the ensuing summer vacation to avoid such hardships to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Some passengers remained on the waiting list.

(b) About 160 specials.

[Translation]

Development work at Ulab Airport

4108. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not carrying development work at Ulab airport in Begusarai district of Bihar;

(b) whether the people of Begusarai, the headquarter of industrial city Barauni, have to cover 150 kms to board the plane from Patna; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Government propose to develop this airport?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Ulab Airport in Begusarai District belongs to the State Government of Bihar. Airports Authority of India has no plans to develop this airport.

[English]

Change in the Name of Dabok Airport

4109. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to change the name of Dabok Airport in Udaipur (Rajasthan) as Maharana Pratap Airport; and

(b) if so, by when this announcement is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) The matter is under examination.

[Translation]

Requirement of Imported Coal in BSP

4110. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of imported coal required by Bokaro Steel Plant annually during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of imported coal supplied to Bokaro Steel Plant during the above period;

(c) the subsidiary units of Coal India Ltd. which catered the need of coal during the above period;

(d) whether any complaints were received regarding the quality of coal;

(e) if so, the details thereof with regard to different subsidiary units during the above period; and

(f) the amount deducted out of bill of different coal companies on the basis of complaints in the quality of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) SAIL has been importing 'Low Ash Metallurgical coking coal' of prime quality as a quantitative and qualitative supplement to the indigenous coking coal to meet the total requirement of steel plants. Import of coking coal is done centrally for all plants. Actual allocation is done on the basis of techno-economic and stock position.

The quantity of imported coking coal received by Bokaro Steel Plant and its percentage to the total coking coal recipts during the last 3 years had been as follows :

Year	Quantity received (In Million Tonnes)	Percentage
1993-94	1.466	37.8%
1994-95	1.446	42.7%
1995-96	1.594	43.2%

(c) The subsidiary units of Coal India Ltd. which supplied coal to Bokaro Steel Plant are as under :

(i) Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)

(ii) Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)

(iii) North Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (NEC)

(d) to (f) The quality of coal supplied to SAIL during the period was determined as per mutually agreed parameters and suitable adjustments were made for variation in the quality through 'Bonus and Penalty' provisions of the contract. The details of quantity of coal